(c) Import of rubber in the past three years is given below:-

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)
2000-01	8970
2001-02	49769
2002-03	26229

(d) and (e) The Government through Rubber Board, is already implementing a number of Plan Schemes for the development of the rubber sector. The schemes provide for suitable financial/technical assistance to the growers, processors, exporters etc. for increasing production of Natural Rubber through expansion of area, enhancing the productivity, improving the quality of the produce to achieve competitiveness in the global markets, promoting agricultural and technological research in the interest of the industry, besides promoting export of this commodity.

(f) Does not arise.

Incentives to rose producers in Rajasthan

729. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pushkar in Rajasthan produced the best export quality roses in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to extend any special incentives to rose producers in the State to further develop its flower sector for export purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) While roses

are grown in Pushkar in Rajasthan, these are mainly exported from Bangalore and Pune regions.

(b) to (d) Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance for Market Development, Infrastructure Development and Quality Development etc. under various schemes to registered exporters of products listed in the schedule 2 of the APEDA Act.

Exports to various countries

†730. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of exports made by India during the year 2002-03;

(b) the percentage of exports to various countries during the above period, country-wise; and

(c) the percentage of rate of Indian export according to the latest report of WTO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The total exports of India for the year 2002-03 are placed at Rs. 252790 crores. In dollar terms it amounts to US$ 52.23 billion. This translates into 19.2% growth rate in dollar terms and 20.9% growth rate in rupee terms for the year 2002-03 as against the previous year.

(b) The percentage of exports to some major trading partners of India during the above period is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) As per the latest WTO report, India's exports registered a 15% growth in the year 2002 which is next only to China among leading world exporters of merchandise goods.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.